

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A compound objective lens comprising a first lens element and a second lens element, the first element comprising a mirror surface for internally redirecting a radiation beam passing through the first element, wherein the objective lens has a numerical aperture greater than 0.65, and wherein the focal length F_1 of the first element is related to the focal length F of the objective lens by the relation:

$$\frac{F_1}{F} > 2.5 \text{ .}$$

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The compound objective lens ~~according to~~as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mirror surface is a planar mirror surface.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The compound objective lens ~~according to~~as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the focal length F of the objective lens is less than 1mm.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A compound objective lens ~~according to any of claims~~as claimed in claim 1 to 3, wherein:

$$\frac{F_1}{F} < 4$$

5. (Currently Amended) A The compound objective lens according to ~~any preceding~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first element comprises a first lens surface arranged along a first optical axis and a second lens surface arranged along a second optical axis which is substantially orthogonal to the first optical axis, and wherein the first and second optical axes coincide at a point along the mirror surface.

6. (Currently Amended) A The compound objective lens according to ~~as claimed in~~ claim 5, wherein:

$$d_1 > sag_1 + D_1$$

where d_1 is the distance between the vertex of the first lens surface and the point at which the two optical axes coincide, and sag_1 is the sag of the first lens surface at the entrance pupil D_1 .

7. (Currently Amended) A The compound objective lens according to ~~as claimed in~~ claim 5 or 6, wherein:

$$d_2 > D_1 + sag_2 - \frac{NA_1}{\sqrt{n_1^2 - NA_1^2}} [d_1 - D_2 - sag_1]$$

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where d_2 is the distance between the vertex of the second lens surface and the point at which the two optical axes coincide, sag_1 is the sag of the first lens surface at the entrance pupil D_1 , NA_1 is the numerical aperture of the beam in the first element, n_1 is the refractive index of the first element, D_2 is a radius on the second surface corresponding to the exit point on the second surface of a collimated ray incident upon the first surface at the entrance pupil D_1 , and sag_2 is the corresponding sag of the second surface at radius D_2 .

8. (Currently Amended) An optical scanning device comprising:

~~an the compound objective lens according to any of as~~
~~claimed in claims 1 to 7 claim 1, the scanning device comprising;~~
and

5 ~~a radiation source for generating a radiation beam which~~
~~is passed, said radiation beam passing through the compound~~
 objective lens to scan an optical record carrier.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~An the~~ optical scanning device
~~according to claim 8 and including a~~comprising:

the compound objective lens according to any of claims
claimed in claim 5 to 7,; and

5 a radiation source for generating a radiation beam, said
radiation beam passing through the compound objective lens to scan
an optical record carrier,

-wherein:

$$d_3 < d_4$$

10 where d_3 is the shortest distance between the closest
point of the first lens surface and the location of the record
carrier, measured parallel to the first optical axis, and d_4 is the
furthest distance between the second lens surface and the location
of the record carrier, measured parallel to the second optical
15 axis.